Identification of New Mines in Gujarat

535. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-ANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified new mines in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to renovate those new identified mines with the help of the State Government;

(d) whether despite minerals and land reserves in the Kutch district, the establishment of industries based on minerals could not be made there; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD ABAISHYA):

(a) and (b) As per information available, a total of 53 new mines have been opened in Gujarat from 1993 to 1997 (upto May '97). The mineral-wise numbers of new mines opened during 1993 to 1997 (upto May '97) in Gujarat is as follows:

Mineral	199tf	1994	1995	1996	(May 1997 '97)	Total
Chalk	9	2	4	1	3	19
Dolomite	1	1	2	4	1	9
Limestone	3	2	3	3	—	11 -
Bauxite	2	5	1	4	—	12
Fireclay	1	—	—	—	—	1
Quartz	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL	16	10	11	12	4	53

(c) There is no such proposal before the Central Government.

(d) and (c) A number of mineral based industries have been set up or arc in the pipeline in Kutch district. Status of sonic mineral based industries is as follows:—

(i) Based on bauxite deposits of Kutch district, Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd., has set up a bauxite calcination plant of 50,000 tpa capacity at Gadhsisa (Mandvi Taluq).

(ii) Based on the lignite deposits located in Lakhpat Taluq, Gujarat Electricity Board has set up two 70MW" thermal power units and third unit with a capacity of 70MW is planned to be added shortly. GMDC Ltd., has also plan to set up a 250 MW thermal power station based on the lignite deposits of this area.

(iii) M/s. Sanghi Industries Ltd.. is setting up a Cement Plant with a capacity of 2.6 million tonnes/annum, based on limestone deposits available in Lakhpat Taluq. The cement plant and its captive power plant of 60MW will utilise lignite of this area.

(iv) A number of levigation and pulverising units for china clay and bentonite respectively arc in operation at the various places in Kutch district.

(v) The Government have approved the proposal of Gujarat Alumina and Bauxite Ltd. in foreign collaboration with M/s. Raytheon Engineers & Construtors Inc. USA and M/s. Raynolds International, USA for setting up of a plant for manufacture of Alumina, Alumina compounds, Metallurgical Coke, Power and Desalinated water in District Kutch, Gujarat.

Use of Solar Energy Programme in Orissa

536. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of NON-